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NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP

Leed Environmental, Inc.

124 Deborah Drive

Reading, PA 19610

Telephone: 610/670-7310

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April 23, 2003

First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Operation and Maintenance Inspection**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

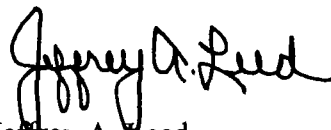
ENTACT conducted an operation and maintenance inspection at the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site on behalf of the NL/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") on March 28, 2003. A copy of ENTACT's O&M inspection log and reproductions of photographs from the inspection are attached for your information.

The Group is currently evaluating the best method to address the items outlined in ENTACT's inspection report and will advise you as plans are developed.

Please contact this office if additional information or clarification is required at this time.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

attachments

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (w/attachments, by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group
(w/attachments, by first class mail)



**NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site
O & M Inspection Log**

Inspector's Name: Jeff McCord, David Hinton

Date of Inspection: Friday, March 28, 2003

Site Structure	Inspected (Yes/No)	Inspection Observations	Maintenance Work Required or Performed
Security Fence:			
• Gates/locks secure and operative	Y	State Street Gate was open. Chain & Lock missing West gate locked and in good condition.	Needs new chain & Lock – 3-31-03
• Evidence of rust, cuts, deterioration	Y	None	
• Evidence of unauthorized entry	Y	Yes. Cut fence in 4 areas on East side near burned building. Fence down and 3 posts bent/broken on North. 1 Fence post broken on West.	Recommend Fence repair ASAP.
• Burrowing or tunneling under fence	Y	None	
• Damaged barbed wire	Y	Top wire of 3 down at SW corner	
• Comments		Anticipated Fire Dept emergency access through gate. Both buildings are destroyed and should be cleared from property. Large building is 95% burned.	Strongly recommend demo & disposal (see photos) Removal of storage building remnants will limit interest in site and eliminate future fence/gate damage.
Access Road:			
• Evidence of settlement or deterioration	Y	None	
• Comments		Fire Dept. truck ruts from State Street Gate to Large building (See photos)	
Landfill Cover – Vegetation			
• Establishment of grass from initial seeding	Y	100% covered with grass	
• Adequate growth of vegetation	Y	Dormant bushes	
• Evidence of stress	Y	None. Dormant from winter. Grass just beginning to green up.	
• Presence of trees/shrubs	Y	Many smaller trees. Several 5'-6' tall (see photo)	
• Need for mowing/maintenance	Y	No present need to mow.	
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Erosion			
• Evidence of erosion	Y	Yes.	
• Indicate areal extent and location		6 locations on West side slope from top to concrete channel. 3 narrow & shallow areas on North and SE corner.	Recommend maintenance on West side to prevent further erosion.
• Comments			

Site Structure	Inspected (Yes/No)	Inspection Observations	Maintenance Work Required or Performed
Landfill Cover – Settlement			
• Evidence of settlement	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Cracks			
• Evidence of cracks	Y	Erosion listed above. Cracks vary from 8" to 20" wide and vary from 6" to 36" deep.	
• Indicate areal extent and location		Deepest crack are on West side from top of slope down to concrete channel.	Recommend maintenance soon to prevent further erosion.
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Bulges			
• Evidence of bulges	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Ponding			
• Evidence of ponding	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Seeps			
• Evidence of seepage (leachate)	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			
Landfill Cover – Slope Stability			
• Evidence of sliding	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			
Leachate Management System			
• Riser pipe and locks	Y	Riser pipe and cap in good condition. No lock	Recommend installing pad lock on cap.
• Leachate levels in sump	N		
• Necessary sampling activities	N		
• Necessary leachate disposal	N		
• Comments			

Site Structure	Inspected (Yes/No)	Inspection Observations	Maintenance Work Required or Performed
Concrete Drainage Channel			
• Evidence of cracks or obstructions	Y	No visible cracks. Minimal obstructions from erosion/run-off sediment. (see photos)	Recommend sweeping/pressure washing of concrete channel
• Areas of erosion	Y	None.	
• Comments			
Asphalt Covers - Integrity			
• Evidence of broken asphalt or fissures	Y	None.	
• Indicate areal extent and location	N/A		
• Comments			

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**



**Photograph 1
Access road ruts**



**Photograph 2
Collapsed roof of
burned building**



**Photograph 3
Channel debris**

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**



**Photograph 4
Channel debris**



**Photograph 5
Cut fence on
northeast side**

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**

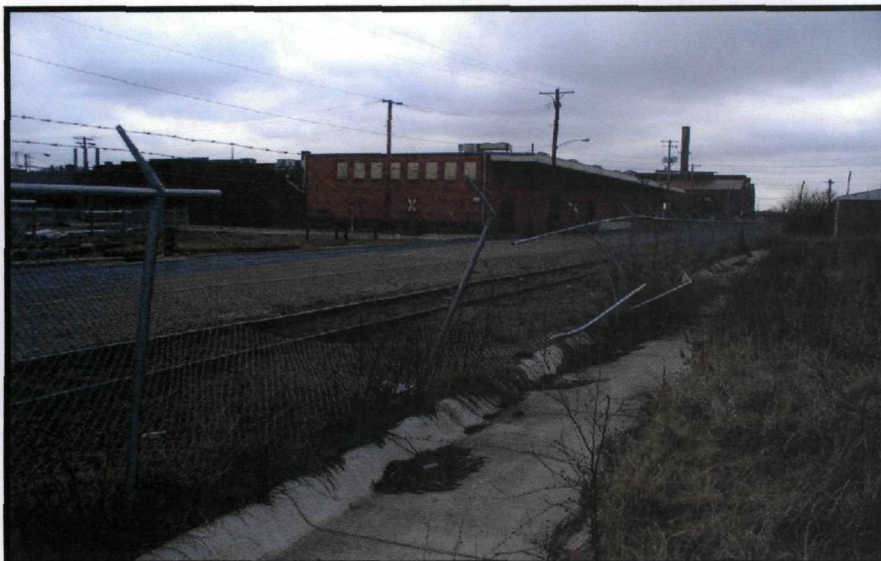


**Photograph 6
Deepest crack – west side**



**Photograph 7
Erosion crack – west side**

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**



**Photograph 8
Fence damage on
northwest side of
site**



**Photograph 9
General – from
bottom looking
north**



**Photograph 10
General – from top
down to drain**

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**

**Photograph 11
Inside burned
building**



**Photograph 12
Leachate riser
and cap**

**Photograph 13
Outside of large
burned building**



**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**



**Photograph 14
Cut fence on
east side of site**



**Photograph 15
Inside of small
building**



**Photograph 16
Outside of small
building**

**NL/Taracorp Superfund Site
Operation and Maintenance Inspection Photographs – March 28, 2003**



**Photograph 17
Trees on Taracorp cap**



**Photograph 18
Truck ruts inside gate**